

# 27 DIE WHEN HOMELESS MAN BURNS HOTEL

## Mexican Rebels Carry Warfare to Gates of Capital

**FINAL**  
EDITION L

**The**



**World**

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WEATHER—Fair to-night and Thursday; cooler.

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### REBELS FIGHT FEDERALS AT MEXICO CITY GATES

**Ten Killed and Score Wounded in Clash, When Rural Guards Are Ambushed.**

**FOREIGNERS IN FEAR.**

**Americans and Others Preparing Protection Against Revolt in Capital.**

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 2.—A sharp fight occurred today only a few miles from Mexico City between a detachment of rural guards, who were caught in ambush by a body of followers of Emiliano Zapata. The rural guards returned the fire of the rebels for twenty minutes, after which the rebels are said to have fled to the hills. The casualties of both parties numbered ten dead and twenty or thirty wounded.

Preparations for defense in case of an attack against President Huerta or an attack by the rebels are being continued by the various foreign colonies, other than the American, in Mexico City. The leaders of the American colony are inclined to believe that any move in that direction taken by them would be likely to be misconstrued by the Mexican Government and it is understood that in order to avoid being regarded as organized combatants the Americans, in case of necessity, will take refuge beneath the protection of the various European flags.

**HUERTA NEWSPAPER ATTACKS WILSON FOR MESSAGE.**  
The message delivered by President Wilson to Congress at Washington yesterday is briefly outlined, but prominently displayed by all the Spanish morning newspapers. The only paper printed in English, however, buried it on its inside page. In commenting on the message, the Independiente, which is controlled by the Government, says:

"The man at the White House has dared to affirm against the truth universally conceded that Provisional President Huerta is losing sympathy every day and that his fall is to be expected. It is hardly believable that President Wilson would have the temerity to assert such a thing thereby giving testimony of his bad faith toward these Mexicans."

The Imparcial says:  
"From a good source it is known that some of the federal ministers accredited to Washington criticize the message severely, saying it would be impossible to guarantee the re-establishment of peace and good government in Mexico if Provisional President Huerta, whose vigorous efforts at the pacification of the country are well known, should leave the Presidency."

El Pais, the most independent of the Mexican newspapers, says:  
"President Wilson's words are so injurious and depressing and at the same time the charges he makes against the Mexican President are so unjust that it is preferable to pass them by in silence in order not to awaken anti-American sentiment in Mexico."

**MERCADO'S ACTION BAD BLOW TO HUERTA.**  
Only vague impressions of the actual contents of the message were conveyed by the scraps published in the newspapers, but it seemed to be concluded generally that President Wilson intended to keep his hands off and to leave Provisional President Huerta to the mercy of his enemies. To the Administration and its adherents this course was said to-day to be highly acceptable and they declared that since the hope of recognition was gone all they desired was to be let alone while the fact that no recognition was accorded to the rebels seemed to be a source of satisfaction and relief to them.

The news that Gen. Salvador Mercado, commander of the Federal forces in Northern Mexico, had sent a military peace commission from Chihuahua to Juarez to treat with the rebels, while eliciting a vigorous denial in official circles here, is regarded as the most serious blow yet struck at Federal prestige.

### Girl Who Stole From Hotel To Be a "High Roller"



### WIFE AND MOTHER STAGESTRUCK BUT HUSBAND OBJECTS

**Tells Court Mrs. Helbleub Neglects Home and Babe to Learn Cabaret Acting.**

Mrs. Charlotte Helbleub, twenty-two, blonde and pretty, wants to be a cabaret singer and dancer, and her husband, Philip, wants her to stay at her home, No. 121 Bristow street, the Bronx, and take care of the baby. It looks as though Charlotte would be a cabaret actress and Philip would have to take care of the baby.

Magistrate Levy did the best he could in West Farms Police Court today. Philip had asked the Court to issue an order or something to restrain his wife from becoming a cabaret entertainer.

"I make \$17 a week as a cleaner and dyer," Philip explained, "and that's my only good pay. Judge, I have been giving my wife about every cent of it, and am living with my mother-in-law. 'Everything went along fine until my mother-in-law wanted to take in a boarder named Mrs. Shubert, who performs in a cabaret show. As soon as Mrs. Shubert comes into the house she tells my wife she's got Adele Ritchie backed off the boards for good looks and talent and the first thing I know my wife and my wife's mother are both stagestruck."

### MANN TALKS WAR IN HOUSE IN ROW OVER ARMY BILL

**Declares if Present Situation Continues It Means a Clash With Mexico.**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—A bill providing for an increase of the United States Army in time of actual or threatened war was debated in the House late to-day and precipitated a discussion of the Mexican situation.

Republican leader Mann said he thought it was significant in view of the Hay saw fit to press his measure on the day following the delivery of President Wilson's address and insist that the House pass it forthwith.

"I do not see any escape from chaos and anarchy in Mexico under the plan we are now pursuing," said Mann. "If this situation continues much longer it means war."

Chairman Hay denied that the Mexican situation caused him to press the bill. "War with Mexico is much further away than it was last August, and I do not believe there will be any war with Mexico," he said.

### GIRL THIEF TELLS OF JEKYLL AND HYDE CAREER OF CRIME

**During Week She Lodged in Boarding House, but Spent Week Ends at Waldorf.**

**LOVED VINTAGE WINES.**

**Some of Bookkeeper's Stolen Money Went to Repay Former Employers She Robbed.**

Miss Grace Le Gendre, former head bookkeeper at the Gregorian Hotel, at No. 42 West Thirty-fifth street, to-day pleaded guilty to forgery before Magistrate Harris, in the Yorkville Police Court, and was held for the Grand Jury in \$2,500 bail. The specific charge was the appropriation of \$400 of the hotel's funds, but Manager Daniel F. Ritchey of the hotel, says the amount of her shortage will reach \$2,000 or \$3,000.

Miss Le Gendre made the amazing confession that for the last four or five years she had been robbing the employer for whom she worked to pay the last employer who discharged her for stealing. In a great big city where, it is claimed, it is so hard for a girl to get a position, in good times and bad, this young woman had no difficulty in working herself into positions of trust and good financial returns. She worked herself out of them by her love for dress, good dinners and luxurious surroundings.

In her remarkable confession, Miss Le Gendre tells how she lived during the week in a Brooklyn boarding house, herself the model of propriety. But each Saturday night, with money she stole, she stopped in the Waldorf and other fashionable hotels spending money like water in high living, returning demurely to work and her boarding house on Mondays.

Some of the money she stole she swore she used to repay former employers who had caught her stealing and who had let her go on her promise that she would make good her thefts.

Her appearance indicates how it might have been easy for her to get a position. Even after a night's sleep in a call in the West Thirtieth street police station she made a pleasing picture in court. To a reporter she said that she had been attended by Dr. Meyerle, who had given her something to quiet her nerves.

"What they have said about me is all true," said the young woman, who is a native of New York.

"I took the money from the firms where I was employed. Strong drink caused my downfall."

**LOVED GOOD TIME AND STOLE TO ENJOY SELF.**

She is thirty-two years old, a brunette. A trace of gray in her dark hair adds to her comeliness. Her big brown eyes are veiled by long lashes. She is small, with dainty hands and feet. Her face is not only pretty, but exceedingly intelligent. In court she wore a gray plush hat and an automobile coat of gray. Her feet were shod with patent leathers and cloth uppers.

"This is an awful blot upon me," she said. "I knew that it would have to come, but I was helpless to avert it. Drink caused it. I couldn't help it. I had to get the money. The average girl who drinks likes good times and leave it to the men to furnish the liquor and the good times. This was never the case with me. I do not care for the society of men in such circumstances."

"Never did I go on a protracted drinking bout. On Saturday evenings till early Monday mornings, when I had to return to work, I hired a room in an expensive hotel and had my meals served in the room. Amid those luxurious surroundings had the best of vintage wines. Sometimes I had a woman companion—never a man. I loved to order the good things. I loved to give dollar tips. I loved to squander money."

### WOMAN IN PRISON AS AUTO SPEEDER; LAUGHS OVER IT

**Tells Court She Can't Pay \$25 and Says She'll Serve Day's Term.**

**THEN TALKS OF WEALTH.**

**Calls Herself Mrs. Cornelius Shangina and Complains of Bad Luck.**

A handsome young woman who joked with the attendants in the West Farms Court and who pleaded poverty as a reason for not paying a fine of \$25 despite the fact that she admitted owning the automobile which she had been caught speeding up Pelham Parkway yesterday afternoon took delight to-day in keeping her identity a secret and cheerfully went to prison for a day although Magistrate Levy offered her a postponement until she could get the money for her fine.

"I couldn't get it even if we did put this off," laughed the young woman. "No, send me to jail. I'll serve my term."

So late the prison she went to remain until 4 o'clock, when her one-day sentence should have been completed.

"I'm really a millionaire from Chicago," she laughed, in response to questions, "and of course that wretched car belongs to me. I have awfully bad luck. I've only had the car a few months. Before that I had a motorcycle and it burned. No, I won't tell you my address except that when I'm in New York I live in the monkey house," and then she went into peals of laughter.

The young woman said she was Mrs. Cornelius Shangina. She had a girl friend who lives in the West End, but would not tell her name or address. She corroborated Mrs. Shangina's story of poverty and seemed terribly upset when Mrs. Shangina began to laugh about millions.

**JAIL SENTENCES SCARE THE SPEEDERS OF AUTOS.**

The wholesale raid on speeding motorists which brought nearly 400 men into court Monday evidently has had its effect on the motorists of the city. Last night the same eight motorcycle policemen who brought in the 400 travelers the same streets for many hours, but reported only seven violations.

Magistrate Murphy was waiting for them in the West Side Court, and he disposed of the cases swiftly, imposing fines of \$50 with alternatives of ten days in jail in each case. Nobody was able to offer a defense which the Magistrate considered good and all the prisoners paid their fines.

A dozen or so men were brought in for allowing their machines to smoke or for failing to have their lights turned on. These cases occur every day and the crusade has not been against such slight violations of the law.

Magistrate Murphy's court was crowded, for many cases which had been adjourned on Monday and Tuesday came up for a hearing. Almost invariably the Magistrate imposed the fine of \$50.

Walter Holsinger, a Yale student and a grandson of Adolphus Busch, whose home is at No. 321 Fifth Avenue, tried hard to win a discharge. He was arrested Sunday on Riverside Drive, charged with operating his automobile at twenty-two miles an hour. He was represented in court by John M. Barrett, and Magistrate Murphy patiently listened through a lot of testimony, but at its conclusion he announced the regular fine and Holsinger paid.

The Magistrate said he was glad to see that speeders had taken their lesson to heart, and he announced that next week he should increase to \$10 his fines for motorists whose cars smoke. This, too, could be stopped, he thought, if the men who drive cars realized that it was to their own financial benefit to obey the law.

### GIRL WHO IS CALLED BY LAWYER "COLLEGE WIDOW OF CORNELL."



### "TONKIE'S" NOTES TO BESTEST GIRL IN \$50,000 SUIT

**Vera Black's Former Husband Wants Damages From Loring L. Tonkin.**

The romance between a college student and a chorus girl was told to-day in Justice Amend's part of the Supreme Court at the trial of a \$50,000 damage suit against Loring L. Tonkin, former Cornell student and member of a wealthy Oil City, Pa., family, brought by John Ernest Wadleigh, the chorus girl's husband. Wadleigh, who was divorced last year from the young woman, says that Tonkin, stole her affections. Tonkin is now married and in business in Oil City.

Vera Black, the wife, with the face of a doll and a coy smile that she distributed among the jurors, took the witness stand. She had to sit through fifteen minutes' denunciation of herself at the hands of Tonkin's attorney, who called her "The College Widow of Cornell" and told the jurors that she was in the habit of meeting stage-door Johnnies in almost every city where her company played.

**HEARS HIS LETTERS OF "BESTEST" GIRL READ.**

Tonkin, who is twenty-six years old, passed through the unpleasant experience of listening to love letters that he had written Vera Black while he was at Cornell. He called himself "Her Tonkie" and told her that she "was the bestest, prettiest little girl in all the world." Occasionally the young woman would flash a smile at Tonkin but it was not returned. Wadleigh got a few of her smiles, but he turned his head and frowned.

Twice during the morning session Vera Black had to laugh aloud at some of the excerpts from the letters she had received from Tonkin. Tonkin in a letter

(Continued on Second Page.)

### BURNS LODGING HOUSE WHEN REFUSED ROOM; 27 HOMELESS MEN DIE

**Unfortunate Men Battle With One Another in Burning Boston Structure to Reach Inadequate Fire Escapes in Rear of Building.**

**MANY LEAP TO SAFETY; OTHERS PLUNGE TO DEATH**

**Lodgers Slept in Cell-Like Rooms, Packed More Closely Than on Coastwise Steamers.**

BOSTON, Mass., Dec. 3.—Twenty-seven of 170 unfortunate men who were trapped in the rooms of the Arcadia Lodging House, at Washington and Laconia streets, in the South End, were burned to death early to-day. Several more were rushed to nearby hospitals dying. A score of others were badly burned, but will live.

Lodgers who escaped from the tinder box structure, with its tiny, cell-like bunk rooms where men might "flop" for the night for 15 cents, told the police the fire was of incendiary origin and was started by a man who was refused lodging last night for want of 15 cents.

### POLICE WAIT TO ARREST MRS. PANKHURST AND FIGHT SUFFRAGETTES

**"Battle" Force Which Is to Protect Leader Ready for Action on Her Arrival.**

PLYMOUTH, Eng., Dec. 2.—Preparations are underfoot to have been made for the arrest of Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst, the militant Suffragette leader, on her arrival here from the United States on board the Majestic to-night or to-morrow. A force of Suffragettes, under the command of "General" Mrs. Flora Drummond, will, it is said, be on the spot ready to fight for their leader's freedom.

The chief constable at Plymouth, who confirms the report that Mrs. Pankhurst is to be arrested, is preparing an adequate force so as to be in readiness to deal with any attempt at rescue which may be made by the militant suffragettes.

No unauthorized person will be allowed on board the tender which meets the Majestic on her arrival, and only the holders of special permits will be admitted to the jetty.

The militant suffragettes have been in constant wireless communication with Mrs. Pankhurst, and have advised her of their plans. The suffragettes anticipate that their leader will be transferred to a special police tug and taken to another port, so they have chartered a vessel to undertake a chase if necessary with a specially formed troop to effect her rescue.

The suffragette leaders think it likely the police will not take Mrs. Pankhurst to London, but will try to incarcerate her at Bristol or in Aylesbury Jail, where Mrs. Florence Maybrick, who had been sentenced to death in 1889 on a charge of poisoning her husband, was kept for so many years after her sentence was commuted to penal servitude.

**SUNDAY WORLD WANTS WORK MONDAY WONDERS.**

Under orders from Mayor Fitzgerald, the Building Department is investigating the story of survivors that all the fire escapes were located in the rear of the hotel, to which access was quickly cut off by the flames. The Grand Jury this afternoon viewed the ruins and began taking testimony regarding the manner in which the owners and lessees of the property had observed the building laws and fire regulations.

On completing his examination of the premises to-day Medical Examiner Leary stated he would confer with District-Attorney Pelletier regarding what official action will be taken. Investigation showed that the building had been remodeled, walls but and thin wooden partitions substituted. These cut the floors into little cells, and as they did not reach to the ceiling, gave a free draft for the flames through each floor.

The Arcadia was conducted by the Lyons Hotel Company, which has a chain of lodging houses in the big Eastern cities. W. H. and J. D. Lyons comprise the company, which owns seven other lodging houses here and fifteen in New York, Brooklyn and Jersey City. The only body identified was that of George P. Adams of South Boston. Most of the injured, seventeen of whom were taken to the City Hospital alone, either had no homes, or lived here.

Dozens of men saved themselves by climbing across a narrow plank to an adjoining building or leaping across a five-foot alley to other roofs. Almost all of them were naked. The victims were trapped in the cell-like rooms. These filled the fourth floor like so many rabbit warrens. There were two cots in each and the panes of the little holes had their doors locked. There were fire escapes only in the back of the building and these sleeping in the front, though they were aroused in time to save themselves, could not reach the fire escapes.

**MANY WERE TOO FRIGHTENED TO LEAP TO SAFETY.**  
Many jumped from the windows and roofs, and others, too terrified to leap, stood, their naked forms silhouetted against the glare of the flames until the fire reached them and dragged them down into the ruins of the top floor. Firemen with extension and scaling ladders made desperate efforts to reach those trapped on the roof and several were saved this way, but practically only those who saved themselves escaped unhurt.

Of the twenty-six known dead, George F. Adams of South Boston, who died after his removal to the City Hospital, was the only victim identified. More than fifty naked men were taken to the nearest police station. When the firemen arrived, thirty of these stood on the roof. Most of them were saved by the use of scaling ladders. The five-story brick "hotel," named